(e) The following steps are taken by NHAI to build road economically:

i. The contracts are awarded on competitive bidding process.

ii. The lenght of highways in contract packages is such that the package is viable and economical.

iii. The Detailed Project Reports are prepared by reputed consultants.

iv. The latest technology is being used.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Setting up of a Coal Videsh Ltd.

2879. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to move ahead with plan to allow Coal India Ltd. to set up a new subsidiary company Coal Videsh Ltd. for acquiring coal blocks abroad;

(b) if so, whether Ministry of Finance had objected to this proposal and suggested that Coal India itself should do the acquisition;

(c) whether the Union Cabinet has given its approval to the proposal; and

(d) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) CIL Board has sent a proposal to form a new wholly owned subsidiary company of CIL with the name, Coal Videsh, for venturing into coal business opportunities abroad considering the widening demand-supply gap and the amount of coal imported into India. No final decision has been taken in the matter.

E-auction leading to fall in coal prices

†2880. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of coal is continuously decreasing after the implementation of e-auction system for sale of coal;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.